

As an SBC employee and a concerned Michigan citizen, I want to express my support for SBC's application to the FCC for entry into the long distance business.

It is critical that Michigan consumers have choice and that one of those choices is SBC. The company has met the 14-point check list, according to the Michigan Public Service Commission, and it has demonstrated that their business is open to competition on the local service front. We must not delay in allowing SBC to sell long distance, especially as so many companies are now allowed into the local market.

The company has been an active community partner. They not only provide excellent service in the local phone business, but they also employ thousands of people in this state. I know from personal experience that they consistently contribute to worthy programs for underserved populations, something that is hard-pressed to find in other carriers. They are truly part of the fabric of this state. I urge the FCC to allow SBC into the long distance business. It is critical for the 30,000 employees and retirees who live in Michigan, and it is critical for the consumer to have another choice.

If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Lisa Hamway